



NEWS RELEASE

Central Idaho Dispatch
Salmon - Challis National Forest,
Salmon Field Office, Idaho Falls
District, BLM
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~~Public and firefighter safety is the highest priority in fighting all wildland fires.~~

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Labor Day Information

The Labor Day Weekend is upon us and people are heading for the hills for the last big weekend of the summer. Forest Service officials have the following information to help forest visitors be prepared for their vacation.

Bayhorse Campground Remains Closed for the Weekend

The Big Bayhorse Campground and day-use area, eight miles south west of Highway 75 on the Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger District, will be closed during the Labor Day weekend while a contractor removes dead trees from the area. The trees recently fell victim to the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic and have created safety hazards at the site. Signs indicating the closure are posted at the junction of the Bayhorse road and Highway 75. The Bayhorse road remains open.

Fire Prevention

This year has been an extremely light year for fires in the Central Idaho Dispatch area and fire managers hope the trend will continue. Central Idaho dispatch reports action on 43 fire starts this fire season with only 1135 acres burned. The low fire season this year is primarily due to the low number of lightning caused fires – only 28 fire starts located. However, 15 fires have been caused by human carelessness and could have been prevented.

The forests and grasslands are very dry and only need a spark or flame to ignite. This holiday weekend “Remember Only You Can Prevent Wildfires.”

- Don't leave campfires unattended
- Make sure campfires are completely extinguished before leaving
- Be careful with matches and smoking materials
- Don't drive or park vehicles on tall, dry grass or brush
- All off highway vehicles must have approved spark arrestors and those spark arrestors must be cleaned.
- Carry a shovel and fire extinguisher in your vehicle

Fire Update

No new fire starts were reported as of 11 a.m. August 28.

Border Complex

Some fire activity was reported on the Border Complex, a combination of three fires, burning in the headwaters of the Selway River on the Bitterroot National Forest, and the headwaters of Horse Creek on the Salmon-Challis National Forest. The combined acreage of these fires is estimated to be 6,000 acres with the following acreages for each fire Woodhump 4807 acres, Cayuse 986 acres, and Roan 207 acres. The fires are being managed for resource benefits and are being closely monitored.

Closures remain in effect on Forest trails in Cayuse Creek, Filly Creek, and Roan creek and along the Selway/Horse Creek Divide.

Waterfall WFU

No activity has been reported on the remote Waterfall Wildland Fire Use fire and Waterfall Creek Trail #045 from the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, up to the Bighorn Crags. Fire managers will continue to monitor the fire which has remained at 134 acres for two weeks.